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## ABSTRACT

Preliminary results of the 1986-87 Council of Graduate Schools/Graduate Record Examinations (CGS/GRE) Enrollment Survey are presented. Respondents totaled 512 of the 552 U.S. institutions surveyed, for a 93% response rate. Highlights of the survey results include: (1) CGS and affiliated institutions enrolled 85% of the total graduate enrollment nationwide, with public institutions representing 70% of these enrollments; (2) nearly half of the students were women; (3) among master's-only institutions, 56% of the students were women; (4) part-time students comprised 52% of the total enrollments; and (5) graduate students at private institutions were somewhat more likely to be male (51% versus 48%) and full-time (43% versus 41%) than their counterparts at public institutions. Statistical tables give data on total enrollment by institution type and sex, and by institution type and enrollment status (1986), first-time enrollment by institution type and sex (1986), graduate degrees awarded by sex (1985-1986), and a profile of graduate enrollment by region (1986). (KM)

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## DATA SOURCES

## First CGS/GRE Enrollment Survey Data Released

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# DATA SOURCES

## FIRST CGS/GRE ENROLLMENT SURVEY DATA RELEASED

**Peter D. Syverson**  
**Director of Information Services**

The first stages of processing the responses to the 1986-87 CGS/GRE Enrollment Survey have been completed and preliminary results are now available. Questionnaires were received from 91 percent, or 500 of the 552 institutions surveyed<sup>1</sup>. CGS is very pleased with this high level of participation. [Update: We have now received questionnaires from 12 additional institutions, boosting the response rate to 93 percent. These responses are being added to the database and will be included in future reports from CGS.] This enrollment survey represents the first of what will be an annual data-collection effort that will produce the core of a longitudinal data base on graduate education in the United States. A full report on the results of the 1986-87 survey will be published this fall.

Highlights of this year's survey results include:

- CGS and affiliated institutions enrolled a total of 943,900 graduate students in the fall of 1986, constituting 85 percent of the total graduate enrollment nationwide. Seventy percent of these enrollments were at public institutions.
- Nearly one-half of the students were women, reflecting the trend that began in the 1960s for increasing numbers of women to pursue graduate education. Fifty-six percent of the graduate students at master's-only institutions were women.
- Part-time students comprised 52 percent of the total enrollments. More than two-thirds of graduate students at master's institutions were part-time, while at doctorate-granting institutions, there was about an even split between full and part-time students.
- Graduate students at private institutions were somewhat more likely to be male (51 percent versus 48 percent) and full-time (43 percent versus 41 percent) than their counterparts at public institutions.
- Nearly a quarter million students enrolled for graduate study for the first time at CGS and affiliated institutions in

1986. Men and women accounted for approximately equal shares of these first-time enrollments.

- The institutional respondents reported awarding 202,500 master's and 30,800 doctoral degrees in 1985-86, or about 70 and 97 percent of the national totals, respectively. Women earned approximately one-half of the master's degrees and one-third of the doctoral degrees.
- First-time enrollments were slightly higher in the New England, Middle Atlantic, and Mountain and Pacific

regions than in other areas of the United States.

<sup>1</sup>The survey questionnaire was mailed in January 1987 to 388 CGS member institutions and to 164 institutions that are not CGS members but are members of one of the four regional organizations affiliated with the Council (North-eastern Association of Graduate Schools, Conference of Southern Graduate Schools, Mid-western Association of Graduate Schools, and Western Association of Graduate Schools). Enrollment data are for fall, 1986; degree data are for the year July 1, 1985 through June 30, 1986.

**Table 1. Total Enrollment by Institution Type and Sex, 1986**

| Highest Degree   | Control             | Male    | Female  | No Report | Number Enrolled |
|------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>Master's</b>  | Public              | 51,600  | 81,300  | 4,000     | 136,900         |
|                  | Private             | 23,100  | 24,100  | 2,900     | 50,100          |
|                  | Subtotal            | 74,700  | 105,400 | 6,900     | 187,000         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 40%     | 56%     | 4%        |                 |
| <b>Doctorate</b> | Public              | 264,500 | 251,200 | 5,500     | 521,200         |
|                  | Private             | 124,000 | 98,300  | 13,500    | 235,800         |
|                  | Subtotal            | 388,500 | 349,500 | 19,000    | 757,000         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 51%     | 46%     | 3%        |                 |
| <b>Total</b>     | Public              | 316,100 | 332,500 | 9,500     | 658,100         |
|                  | Private             | 147,100 | 122,300 | 16,400    | 285,800         |
|                  | Total               | 463,200 | 454,800 | 25,900    | 943,900         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 49%     | 48%     | 3%        |                 |

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 2. Total Enrollment by Institution Type and Enrollment Status, 1986**

| Highest Degree   | Control             | Full-time | Part-time | No Report | Number Enrolled |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>Master's</b>  | Public              | 28,500    | 98,800    | 9,600     | 136,900         |
|                  | Private             | 12,700    | 33,200    | 4,200     | 50,100          |
|                  | Subtotal            | 41,200    | 132,000   | 13,800    | 187,000         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 22%       | 71%       | 7%        |                 |
| <b>Doctorate</b> | Public              | 240,900   | 235,200   | 45,100    | 521,200         |
|                  | Private             | 112,300   | 121,000   | 2,500     | 235,800         |
|                  | Subtotal            | 353,200   | 356,200   | 47,600    | 757,000         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 47%       | 47%       | 6%        |                 |
| <b>Total</b>     | Public              | 269,400   | 334,000   | 54,700    | 658,100         |
|                  | Private             | 125,000   | 154,200   | 6,600     | 285,800         |
|                  | Total               | 394,400   | 488,200   | 61,300    | 943,900         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 42%       | 52%       | 6%        |                 |

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 3. First-time Enrollment by Institution Type and Sex, 1986**

| Highest Degree   | Control             | Male    | Female  | No Report | Number Enrolled |
|------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>Master's</b>  | Public              | 10,700  | 16,500  | 1,300     | 28,500          |
|                  | Private             | 6,000   | 6,300   | 1,200     | 13,500          |
|                  | Subtotal            | 16,700  | 22,800  | 2,500     | 42,000          |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 40%     | 54%     | 6%        |                 |
| <b>Doctorate</b> | Public              | 59,100  | 55,300  | 6,900     | 121,300         |
|                  | Private             | 30,900  | 24,400  | 4,900     | 60,200          |
|                  | Subtotal            | 90,000  | 79,700  | 11,800    | 181,500         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 50%     | 44%     | 7%        |                 |
| <b>Total</b>     | Public              | 69,800  | 71,800  | 8,200     | 149,800         |
|                  | Private             | 36,900  | 30,700  | 6,100     | 73,700          |
|                  | Total               | 106,700 | 102,400 | 14,400    | 223,500         |
|                  | % of total enrolled | 48%     | 46%     | 6%        |                 |

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 4. Graduate Degrees Awarded by Sex, 1985-86**

| Control                 | Responding Institutions | Percent Response | Men    | Women  | No Report | Total   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|
| <b>Master's Degrees</b> |                         |                  |        |        |           |         |
| Public                  | 278                     | 79%              | 56,200 | 60,700 | 16,000    | 132,900 |
| Private                 | 165                     | 83%              | 33,800 | 27,400 | 8,400     | 69,600  |
| Total                   | 443                     | 80%              | 90,000 | 88,100 | 24,400    | 202,500 |
| <b>Doctoral Degrees</b> |                         |                  |        |        |           |         |
| Public                  | 164                     | 85%              | 11,200 | 6,500  | 2,100     | 19,800  |
| Private                 | 106                     | 87%              | 6,200  | 3,600  | 1,200     | 11,000  |
| Total                   | 270                     | 86%              | 17,400 | 10,100 | 3,300     | 30,800  |

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 5. Profile of Graduate Enrollment by Region, 1986**

|                              | New England    | Middle Atlantic  | South Atlantic   | Region East Central | West Central     | Mountain & Pacific | Total   |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------|
| <b>Total Enrollment</b>      | 67,700<br>7.2% | 146,800<br>15.6% | 157,400<br>16.7% | 223,200<br>23.6%    | 166,300<br>17.6% | 182,600<br>19.3%   | 943,900 |
| <b>First-time Enrollment</b> | 18,200<br>8.1% | 37,200<br>16.6%  | 36,400<br>16.3%  | 48,600<br>21.7%     | 37,000<br>16.6%  | 46,100<br>20.6%    | 223,500 |
| <b>Male*</b>                 | 35,800<br>7.7% | 68,800<br>14.9%  | 75,600<br>16.3%  | 108,200<br>23.4%    | 81,600<br>17.6%  | 93,200<br>20.1%    | 463,200 |
| <b>Female*</b>               | 31,900<br>7.0% | 66,000<br>14.5%  | 79,900<br>17.6%  | 111,500<br>24.5%    | 84,800<br>18.6%  | 80,800<br>17.8%    | 454,800 |

\* Figures for male and female do not add up to total enrollment because three institutions did not report enrollment by sex.

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment